

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY NEA:SSOBER:LAB

APPROVED BY M:LSEAGLEBURGER

S/S -LCJOHNSTONE

NEA:ALATHERTON,JR.

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 240341

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, IR, US

SUBJECT: DEFREPIRAN TERMS OF REFERENCE

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM EAGLEBURGER AND SOBER

1. SOBER MET WITH ELLSWORTH OCTOBER 6 AND REVIEWED THE VARIOUS POINTS OF CONCERN, WHICH WE SHARE WITH YOU, AS MENTIONED IN YOUR OCTOBER 2 MEMO TO SOBER. LATTER STRESSED THAT OUR CONCERN IS NOT OVER PERSONALITIES BUT RATHER OVER THE POTENTIALITY FOR SERIOUS SETBACK IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH IRAN UNLESS THE CURRENT UNCERTAINTY IN THE ROLE OF DEFREPIRAN IS CLARIFIED SATISFACTORILY.

2. IN RESPONSE TO SOBER'S REQUEST FOR REVIEW AND APPROPRIATE REVISION OF DEFREPIRAN TOR, ELLSWORTH HAS NOW SENT HIM FOLLOWING LETTER:

BEGIN TEXT:

I ENCLOSE A COPY OF THE REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE
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US DEFENSE REPRESENTATIVE, IRAN, WITH THE ADDITION (ON THE

THIRD PAGE) OF THE DESIGNATION OF CHIEF, ARMISH MAAG, AS

DEPUTY DEFREP IRAN, AS ADDITIONAL DUTY.

WITH REGARD TO THE MEMO FROM AMBASSADOR HELMS TO YOU, WHICH YOU WERE KIND ENOUGH TO SHOW ME THE OTHER DAY, I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT THERE ARE NO "SECOND THOUGHTS IN WASHINGTON WHICH WOULD DIMINISH VON MARBOD'S ABILITY TO INFLUENCE DEVELOPMENTS AND IMPAIR HIS RELATIONS WITH HIS MILITARY ASSOCIATES." SPECIFICALLY, YOU MAY BE ASSURED THAT THE EXCLUSION FROM HIS (DEFREP IRAN) SUPERVISION OF "MILITARY OPERATIONAL MATTERS UNDER THE PURVIEW OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF" IS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH AMBASSADOR HELMS' STATEMENT THAT HE ASSUMES THAT SUCH MILITARY OPERATIONAL MATTERS "WILL NOT IMPINGE ON THE PRINCIPAL DEFREP RESPONSIBILITIES, I.E., THE ADMINISTRATION OF FMS CASES AND THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS OF OUR MILITARY COMMUNITY." AS A MATTER OF FACT, BOTH DEFREP IRAN AND CHIEF, ARMISH MAAG, FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT DEFREP IRAN HAS AUTHORITY TO LEVY REQUIREMENTS ON ALL RELEVANT DOD ELEMENTS IN ORDER TO MEET LOCAL, IN-COUNTRY NEEDS OF THE DOD COMMUNITY AND TO PERFORM ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITIES. THIS ARRANGEMENT APPEARS TO BE FULLY CONSISTENT WITH AMBASSADOR HELMS' CONCERNS AND SUGGESTIONS.

YOU WILL ALSO NOTE ON PAGE TWO THAT I HAVE REINSERTED THE LANGUAGE WITH REGARD TO DEFREP IRAN HAVING EIGHT STAFF PERSONNEL.

I BELIEVE THAT THE TERMS OF REFERENCE AS THEY NOW STAND ARE ADEQUATE, AND TRUST THAT THEY MAY GO FORWARD PROMPTLY. MAY I HEAR FROM YOU ON THIS AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE?

END TEXT.

3. REVISED TOR, AS PROPOSED BY ELLSWORTH CONTAIN TWO CHANGES FROM TEXT LEFT WITH YOU BY SOBER LAST WEEK:

(A) NEW FIRST ITEM UNDER "SUPPORT" ON PAGE TWO, AS
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FOLLOWS:

"--DEFREP IRAN WILL HAVE A PERSONAL STAFF OF NO MORE THAN EIGHT (8) PERSONNEL."

(B) NEW SECOND SENTENCE IN FIRST PARAGRAPH ON PAGE THREE, AS FOLLOWS:

"AS ADDITIONAL DUTY, CHIEF, ARMISH-MAAG IS DESIGNATED
DEPUTY DEFREP IRAN."

4. ABOVE CHANGES IN TOR ARE SUPPLEMENTED BY ELLSWORTH'S
ASSURANCES, IN LETTER TO SOBER, REGARDING DEFREP'S
RELATIONSHIP TO ALL RELEVANT DOD ELEMENTS IN IRAN AND
THAT THERE ARE NO "SECOND THOUGHTS" WHICH WOULD DIMINISH
VON MARBOD'S ABILITY TO DO THE JOB HE WAS SENT OUT TO DO.

5. WE BELIEVE THIS HAS BEEN A USEFUL EXCHANGE WHICH
SHOULD HELP TO GET THE VON MARBOD EXERCISE BACK ON TRACK
ASAP. WE BELIEVE THE MAIN POINTS SET OUT IN YOUR MEMO
TO SOBER HAVE BEEN MET AND HOPE YOU WILL AGREE THAT WE CAN
COMMUNICATE OUR JOINT CONCURRENCE TO ELLSWORTH ON THE
REVISED TOR. IN DOING SO, WE PLAN TO REITERATE OUR
DESIRE THAT ALL NECESSARY SUPPORT BE GIVEN TO DEFREPIRAN
SO THAT HE CAN GO AHEAD AND GET ON WITH THE IMPORTANT
WORK THAT WAS LAID OUT WHEN SECSTATE AGREED TO SECDEF'S
REQUEST TO ESTABLISH THIS NEW JOB.

6. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS. KISSINGER

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